

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing Of Claims:**

1. (Original) A method for controlling a microcontroller in a control unit in a motor vehicle having a processor core containing at least one read-only memory area, and at least one rewritable memory area, at least one control program that is intended to be processed by the processor core being stored in the rewritable memory area, the method comprising:

storing a verification program in a write-once memory area of the rewritable memory area;

storing a service program in the read-only memory area;

calling the service program by the control program at regular intervals;

calling the verification program by the service program;

resetting a counter by the service program when called by the control program;

verifying at least part of the rewritable memory area by the verification program;

triggering a reset one of by the verification program in the event of manipulation of the verified memory area and by the counter in the event of counter overflow.

2.-8. (Canceled)